

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in this application. Claims 1-6 stand rejected. In light of the remarks set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

Figure 6 was objected to because it is not labeled as prior art. Applicants have relabeled Figure 6 as prior art and submit a new drawing in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(d). As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this objection.

Figure 3 is objected to because it contains an embedded hyperlink. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this objection. The hyperlink in Figure 3 is not an attempt to incorporate subject matter into the patent application by reference utilizing a hyperlink and/or other form of browser executable code. The hyperlink in Figure 3 is not intended to be an active link. This link is being used to depict the source address contents for a session identifier ID. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to this hyperlink and, when preparing the text to be loaded onto the U.S. PTO web database, have the hyperlink disabled. See, M.P.E.P. § 608.01(vii).

The specification has been objected to because it contains an embedded hyperlink. Applicants have amended the specification to remove this hyperlink. As such, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the objection to the specification.

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,185,598 ("Farber"). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

To anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102, the cited reference must disclose every element of the claim, as arranged in the claim, and in sufficient detail to enable one skilled in the art to make and use the anticipated subject matter. See, PPG Industries, Inc. v. Guardian Industries Corp., 75 F.3d 1558, 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1996); C.R. Bard, Inc. v. M3 Sys., Inc., 157 F.3d 1340, 1349 (Fed. Cir. 1998). A reference that does not expressly disclose all of the elements of a claimed invention cannot anticipate unless all of the undisclosed elements are inherently present in the reference. See, Continental Can Co. USA v. Monsanto Co., 942 F.2d 1264, 1268 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

Among the limitations of independent claim 1 not present in the cited reference is an address conversion circuit for writing address information on the client that is the source of the request for digital information leading to that forwarding operation into said forwarding request signal. The Office Action asserts that this feature is disclosed in Farber at column 5, lines 18-25 and lines 41-49. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Farber discloses a client 106 requesting information from origin server 102 through either a repeater 104 or via a reflector 108 which will reflect the request to one of the various repeaters having the contents stored on the origin server. In Farber, at lines 18-25, Farber explicitly recites that the repeaters 104 are intermediate processors used to service client requests. The repeaters deliver resources to clients on behalf of the origin server. The repeaters may include a cache which will avoid unnecessary transactions through the origin server. In other words, in most circumstances, if the repeater does not include a cache, the information must come from the origin server. Further, at lines 41-49, Farber discloses that each location on a network, i.e., information, data files, etc., are specified by a uniform resource locator (URL). However, at no point does Farber disclose that the repeater includes an address conversion circuit as explicitly recited in Applicants' claim for writing address information

on the client that is the source of the request for digital information leading to that forwarding operation into said forwarding request signal.

In contrast, according to the present invention, if the requested information is not present at the repeater cache, an address conversion circuit ensures that the client address is in the report, not the address of the repeater or repeater cache. As such, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Claims 2-6 depend from, and contain all the limitations of claim 1. These dependent claims also recite additional limitations which, in combination with the limitations of claim 1, are neither disclosed nor suggested by Farber and are also believed to be directed towards the patentable subject matter. Thus, claims 2-6 should also be allowed.

Applicants have responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

Application No.: 09/977,587

Docket No.: I3117.0030

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Attachments

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REPLACEMENT SHEET

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached drawing sheet includes changes to.

Figure 6 has been relabeled as prior art and submits a new drawing in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(d).

Attachment: Replacement sheet
 Annotated sheet showing changes

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ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES



5/5

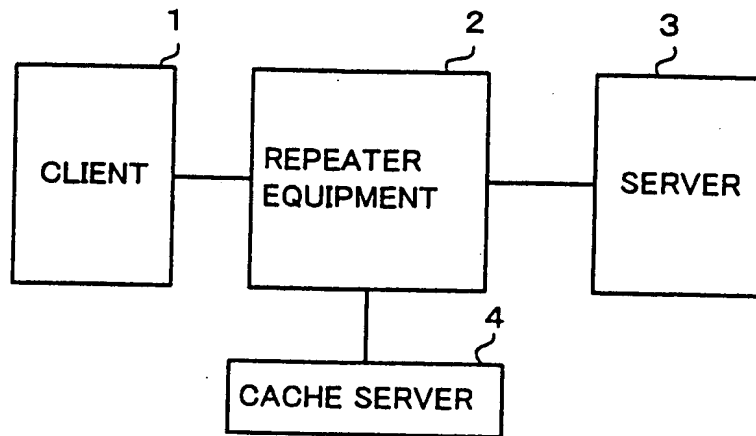


Fig. 6

PRIOR ART